

HETEROPTERA RECORDING IN CORNWALL AND DEVON DURING 1989 AND 1990

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The work of the National Trust's Biological Survey Team took us to Cornwall and Devon for much of the 1989 and 1990 field seasons. During this time we were able to find many of the specialities of the south west of England as well as other nationally scarce species, both on National Trust and privately owned land.

The following lists give details of the localities, and, where appropriate, additional comments on the distribution and habitat associations. Three of the south western specialities are listed in Shirt (1987) as 'Red Data Book' species and are indicated by an asterisk.

SOUTH-WESTERN SPECIALITIES

Dicranocephalus agilis (Scop.) (Stenocephalidae). W. Cornwall: sand dunes, Constantine Bay (SW859747), vii.1989. S. Devon: wherever Portland spurge grew in abundance on the rocky cliff-slopes—Moor Sands (SX762363), 26.vi.1990; Gammon Head (SX764358), 27.vi.1990; Gara Rock (SX750370), 26.vi.1990; and Bolt Head (SX724361), 2.vii.1990. N. Devon: sand dunes Braunton Burrows (SS4533), 13.vi.1989.

**Trapezonotus ullrichi* (Fieb.) (Lygaeidae). Invariably on flowerheads of ox-eye daisy in cliff-top dry herb-rich grassland. This association with ox-eye daisy has not been previously reported. Interestingly, Kirby (pers. comm.) made the same observation during 1990. E. Cornwall: West Coombe, Lansallos (SX166512), 14.v.1990; Lundy Hole, east of Pentire Head (SW957798), 22.v.1990. S. Devon: Sharp Tor, Bolt Head (SX729367), 28.vi.1990; cliffs west from Hoist Point, Kingston (SX640463), 1.vii.1990.

**Emblethis verbasci* (F.) (Lygaeidae). Found at the well-known mainland Cornwall locality. W. Cornwall: dune grassland, Sennen (SW358266), 29.v.1989.

**Lasiacantha capucina* Germ. (Tingidae). This was first discovered in Britain by J. H. Keys in 1919 on The Lizard, and has subsequently only been reported from Kynance Cove, Lizard Peninsula and Sennen Cove, West Penwith (Masse, 1953, and more recently, Kirby, pers. comm.). Kirby (pers. comm.) suggested to us that it was almost certainly more widespread. This proved to be the case, as we found it to be present on every cliff section examined between Loe Pool and Beagles Point, wherever herb-rich grassland and grass heath was developed and where rocky outcrops were covered in mats of thyme. Where a lack of grazing had led to coarsening of the grassland and scrub development, covering rock faces, then none were found. Conversely, none were found in the very heavily grazed section between Lower Predannack and Kynance Cliffs. The adult bugs were occasionally visible on the thyme foliage in hot sunshine, but were more difficult to locate during cooler weather. W. Cornwall (South coast): above Pol Cornick, Lower Predannack Cliff (SW669156), 21.v.1989; Beagles Point (SW766166), 28.v.1989; Kynance Cliff (SW680135), 29.v.1989; on thyme mats overhanging eroded gullies in head cliff caused by heavy trampling, Chyvarloe Cliffs (SW648235), 7.vi.1989; north of Parc Bean Cove, Lower Predannack Cliff (SW663160), 14.vi.1989; Lizard Point (SW695115), 15.vi.1989; Mullion Cliffs (SW665175), 9.vii.1989. W. Cornwall (North coast): swept from tall waved heath, between Chapel Porth and Porth Towan (SW692486), 23.v.1990. E. Cornwall: Nare Head (SW917371), 4.vii.1989.

Capsodes sulcatus (Fieb.) (Miridae). W. Cornwall: swept from small gullied flush in cliffs north side of Poldhu Cove (SW662200), 13.vi.1989. E. Cornwall: swept from sparse herb-rich vegetation on eroding head cliff, Treluggan Cliff (SW890379), 5.vii.1989. S. Devon: one swept from gorse grassland on cliff-slopes at Gara Point, Yealm (SX525469), 25.vi.1990, and Season Point, Wembury (SX527479), 21.vi.1990; nymph under sea campion mat over rock outcrop on rocky cliff slopes of Gammon Head (SX764356), 27.vi.1990.

Saldula arenicola (Scholtz) (Saldidae). This speciality of seepages on the soft-rock cliffs of Hampshire and Dorset was found at two locations on the Trust's Weston Estate, thus extending its known distribution westwards. S. Devon: cliff seepages at Weston (SY165880), 17.vii.1990 and Dunscombe (SY156878), 18.vii.1990.

COASTAL AND HEATHLAND SPECIALITIES

Odontoscelis lineola Ramb. (Scutelleridae). N. Devon: sand dunes, Braunton Burrows (SS4533), 13.vi.1989.

Sciocoris cursitans (F.) (Pentatomidae). W. Cornwall: sand dunes, Godrevy Towans (SW58343), 17.v.1990.

Rhacognathus punctatus (L.) (Pentatomidae). W. Cornwall: coastal heath, Pen Enys Point (SW489410), 24.v.1989.

Enoplops scapha (F.) (Coreidae). W. Cornwall: coastal heath at Newdowns Head (SW707517), 30.vi.1989 and Lower Predannack (SW669156), 30.v.1989. E. Cornwall: coastal heath, Tidnacombe (SS198148), 6.vii.1989.

Arenocoris falleni (Schilling) (Coreidae). N. Devon: sand dunes, Braunton Burrows (SS4533), 13.vi.1989.

Corizus hyoscyami (L.) (Rhopalidae). S. Devon: low head cliffs, Stoke Point (SX559460), 21.vi.1990. N. Devon: sand dunes, Braunton Burrows (SS4533), 15.vi.1989.

Beosus maritimus (Scop.) (Lygaeidae). W. Cornwall: coastal heath, Boscregan (SW356295), 22.v.1989; sand dunes, Godrevy (SW583423), 17.v.1990. E. Cornwall: nymphs among shoreline vegetation, mostly sea mayweed, at Porthbeor Beach, St Anthony-in-Roseland (SW862320), 3.vii.1989. S. Devon: sandy head, Southdown Cliff (SX923534), 12.vi.1990.

Rhyparochromus pini (L.) (Lygaeidae). N. Devon: head cliffs, Baggy Point (SS427400), 24.vi.1990.

Megalonotus praetextatus (H.) (Lygaeidae). W. Cornwall: dune grassland, Sennen (SW358266), 29.v.1989.

Kalama tricornis (Schr.) (Tingidae). E. Cornwall: one in short sheep-grazed herb-rich grassland west of Hore Point (SX236512), 27.vi.1989.

Myrmedobia coleoprata (Fall.) (Microphysidae). W. Cornwall: under mat of thyme growing over rock outcrop on Mullion Cliff (SW666179), 9.vii.1989.

WOODLAND AND PARKLAND SPECIALITIES

Sehirus biguttatus (L.) (Cydniidae). This *Melampyrum* associate was found in two areas where the National Trust owns extensive old oak coppice woodland. S. Devon: swept from woodland ground flora widely in old oak coppice of Hembury Woods (SX726684), 14.vi.1990. N. Devon: beneath stones in old oak coppice with moderately open canopy, Parsonage Wood, (SS646478), 24.vii.1990, and Heddon's Mouth Wood (SS653483), 25.vii.1990, both Heddon Valley. Many other such woods were visited without finding it. At Hembury, heavy thinning operations have created the open

canopy which favours it, while at the Heddon site the canopy appears to be naturally thin. Open sunny conditions are believed to be important (Kirby, in press), and the former coppice management in these woods would have been very favourable to the species. Its survival to date has therefore been entirely fortuitous, but future woodland management should now take its requirements into account.

Dicranocephalus medius (Muls. & Rey) (Stenocephalidae). S. Devon: swept from large stand of wood spurge on recently cleared woodland edge, Hembury Woods (SX726686), 14.vi.1990. Like the previous species, this has a preference for open sunny areas and must have been favoured by the former coppice management.

Physatocheila smreczynskii China (Tingidae). E. Cornwall: beaten from lichen-covered apple boughs in old orchard within Boconnoc Park (SX144599), 20.v.1989. Not previously recorded in Cornwall.

Xylocoris cursitans (Fall.) (Cimicidae). Typically found under sappy bark on dead timber of a variety of broad-leafed trees in various ancient pasture woodland sites. According to the Cornish Biological Records Unit, only previously recorded in Cornwall in the Victoria County History of 1906. E. Cornwall: Boconnoc Park (SX144599), 24.vi.1989; Lanhydrock Park (SX090635), 27.vi.1989; Ethy Woods (SX133568), 14.vii.1989. S. Devon: Shobrooke Park (SS8501), 30.iii.1989; Newland Brakes area of Ashclyst Forest (SX9999), 23.ix.1989; Killerton Park (SX9897), 3.vii.1990; Knightshayes Park (SS960150), 6.vii.1990. N. Devon: Arlington Park (SS6139), 30.vii.1990.

OTHER SCARCE SPECIES

Scolopostethus puberulus Horvath (Lygaeidae). W. Cornwall: amongst maritime grassland with abundant kidney-vetch and thrift, Cornelias Zawn, Treveal (SW465401), 24.v.1989. E. Cornwall: amongst tall herbs in damp hollow within farmland above Downhedge Cove, east of Pentire Head (SW947798), 22.v.1990.

Cardiastethus fasciiventris (Garbiglietti) (Cimicidae). S. Devon: swept from woodland ground flora along the river flats of the River Dart in Hembury Woods (SX732688), 14.vi.1990; another beaten from turkey oak foliage at Sprydoncote Park, Killerton Estate (SX987993), 11.vii.1990. This species seems to have a preference for accumulations of dry leaf litter caught up amongst twigs and branches, and occurs on heaths and acid grasslands as well as woods (Kirby, pers. comm.).

Pachytomella parallela (Meyer-Dur) (Miridae). S. Devon: rushy streamside, Shavercombe Brook, Upper Plym (SX593664), 19.vi.1990; rushy pathsides in Holne Wood (SX701705), 11.vi.1990; swept from *Luzula* by River Dart and rushes along damp ride in side valley, Hembury Woods (SX730687), 14.vi.1990.

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